

FACT SHEET

Update: 5/20/06

GILA NATIONAL FOREST – Fire Update

Fire Info: 505-388-8245/505- 538-1426 (cell)

www.fs.fed.us/r3/gila



Wildland Fire Use – All fires were lightning-caused.

Taylor Fire: Black Range Ranger District, detected on 5/15/06, located 48 miles west of Truth or Consequences, NM. Current size is **60** acres. Some burnout operations are being conducted around private land. Fire behavior is described as low to moderate, burning in grass and piñon juniper type vegetation. For specific information about the Taylor Fire, call 505-894-6677.

Pine Fire: Reserve Ranger District, detected on 5/15/06, located 30 miles southeast of Reserve, NM. Current size is **less than 1** acre. Fire behavior is described as low. The fire is being monitored regularly. For specific information about the Pine Fire, call 505-533-6231.

Plaza Fire: Reserve Ranger District, detected on 5/15/06, located 3 miles southeast of Reserve, NM. Current size is **less than 1** acre. There has been no growth reported on the fire over the last several days. Monitoring activities are ongoing. For specific information about the Plaza Fire, call 505-533-6231.

Saliz Fire: Reserve Ranger District, detected on 5/15/06, located 8 miles southeast of Reserve, NM. Current size is **3** acres. Very little new fire growth reported. For specific information about the Saliz Fire, call 505-533-6231.

Wildfires – not contained. All fires were lightning-caused.

Star Fire: Wilderness Ranger District, detected on 5/18/06, located 15 miles northwest of Mimbres, NM. Current size is **3-5** acres. One engine responded. The fire was 50% lined by late evening on Thursday. For specific information about the Star Fire, call 505-536-2250.

Seven Fire: Reserve Ranger District, detected on 5/18/06, located 20 miles southeast of Reserve, NM. Current size remains at **200** acres. 80 personnel were assigned to the fire on Friday and 20 scheduled for release by evening or early Saturday morning. For specific information about the Seven Fire, call: 505-533-6231.

Turkey Fire: Reserve Ranger District, detected on 5/17/06, is reported to be about **1** acre in size. One engine and nine personnel are assigned to the fire. For specific information about the Seven Fire, call: 505-533-6231.

New Starts - Wildfires that were reported on 5/19/06.

There were 9 fires reported on 5/19/06. Most were under ¼ acre in size. The Pack Saddle Fire was the largest at 5 – 8 acres and retardant planes delivered three loads of retardant to the fire over the course of the day. The total number of acres affected by Friday's new fires was 14 acres.

Restrictions

The Gila National Forest is currently in Stage I Fire and Smoking restrictions. Open campfires are limited to designated campgrounds only and smoking is prohibited, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is cleared of flammable material. The list of campgrounds where campfires are still allowed is listed within the official order 06-248, which is posted on the website at:

<http://www2.srs.fs.fed.us/r3/gila/fire/forestclosure.asp>.

For more information about the current fire activity on the Gila National Forest, contact the Information Office at 388-8245 or visit the website at www.fs.fed.us/r3/gila.

Information about all current federal and state land restrictions and closures in New Mexico and Arizona can be found by visiting the website:

http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc/information/firerestrictions/restrictions_closures.htm